

S.No.	Name of the Company	1998-99	1997-98	1996-97
INDUSTRIAL DEV. AND TECH. CONSULTANCY SERVICES				
96	Engineering Projects (India) Ltd.	-3419	-3574	-4875
97	Metallurgical & Engg. Consultants (India) Ltd.	-1117	167	848
98	National Industrial Dev. Corpn. Ltd.	-588	-594	-58
TOURIST SERVICES				
99	Assam Ashok Hotel Corp. Ltd.	-25	-42	-19
100	Donyl Polo Ashok Hotel Ltd.	-15	-7	4
101	Madhya Pradesh Ashok Hotel Corp. Ltd.	-36	-17	4
102	Pondicherry Ashok Hotel Corp. Ltd.	-12	3	8
103	Ranchi Ashok Bihar Hotel Corp. Ltd.	-20	-23	-29
104	Utkal Ashok Hotel Corp. Ltd.	-69	-48	-79
FINANCIAL SERVICES				
105	National Film Dev. Corp. Ltd.	-1037	472	105
SECTION 25 COMPANIES				
106	Artificial Limbs Mfg. Corp. of India	-429	-666	-457
GRAND TOTAL		-927424	-614731	-474315

Appointment of Executive Directors of Banks

1762. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a panel of fifteen names of General Managers of Nationalised Banks was recommended by Sub-Committee of Appointments Board for appointment as Executive Directors in such banks;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that out of the above panel Government have approved only seven names and proposed to scrap the remaining eight names which is unprecedented;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) if not, by when all fifteen candidates are likely to be appointed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Action has been initiated to appoint the first six empanelled executives in the panel as Executive Directors in various nationalised banks against the existing vacancies. The appointment of other persons in the panel would depend on the availability of vacancies during the period of validity of the panel.

Circulation of Fake Currency Notes

†1763. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government are aware of the fact that people are facing difficulties due to the problem of circulation of fake currency notes on a large scale in the country;
- (b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to check the same; and
- (c) whether Government are going to change the design and colour of notes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (c) There are complaints about circulation of fake currency notes in the country. However, the total quantity of fake notes recovered/seized is only a minuscule proportion of the total notes in circulation. But the Government is serious in the matter and has taken the following steps in this regard:—

- (1) A High Level Committee has been constituted to go into the entire gamut of issues pertaining to the security dimension of Indian currency.
- (2) A six-member Fact Finding Committee under the convenorship of a Deputy General Manager, Reserve Bank of India, comprising of experts on note-printing/currency paper, etc., has been set up for examining the seized fake notes to enable the Government to take remedial action *vis-a-vis* printing and security features.
- (3) The Reserve Bank of India has undertaken a publicity campaign about security features incorporated in the genuine notes.
- (4) The security features of Rs. 500 denomination notes have been widely published in the print and electronic media to help the people to detect fake notes.

†Original notice of question was received in Hindi.